in the country on a daily basis and in the last one year over 30 tonnes of live and fired shells were seized from these scraps;

(b) whether it is a fact that if these shells are not defused immediately, they can cause grave danger;

(c) if so, whether these shells have since been defused; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (d) The country requires 5 million tones of scrap for re-cycling and use by the steel industry, of which 2.5 million tones is imported every year. After an explosion on 30th September, 2004 in the premises of M/s. Bhushan Steel and Strips Ltd., Ghaziabad, live and spent shells were recovered/ found discarded in various parts of the country. On the basis of requests received from the concerned State Governments, NSG and Ministry of Defence were requested to provide the necessary assistance to them for diffusing these shells. In some cases, these shells have successfully been disposed off. In other cases, NSG / Army has requested these States to provide the necessary clearances, safe locations and explosives required for destroying the recovered shells.

Promoting export of processed food

†3055 PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken by Government to promote export of processed food and fruits from India during the last five years; and

(b) the details of the achievements made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S.ELANGOVAN): (a) Measures taken by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) to promote export of processed food and fruits include setting up centers for perishable cargo at airports and other infrastructure facilities, development of packaging standards, quality develpment,

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

research, transport assistance to exporters, implementation of pesticide residue monitoring plans, participation in international exhibitions and promotional campaigns.

(b) APEDA has been instrumental in giving impetus to the developments of export related infrastructure, market access for Indian processed foods and fruits in various countries (Saudi Arabia lifted the ban on import of mutton and buffalo meat from India) and contributing significantly to export of processed food products and fruits. There has been a notable increase in exports durings the period in some of the product categories as indicated below:

(Value: Rupees in crores)

Item	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Processed Fruits & Vegetables	1345.54	1100.57	1206.93	1125.81	1462.72
Animal Products	1637.16	1500.93	1800.53	2024.81	2252.33
Other Processed Foods	1798.03	1780.07	1720.11	2316.44	2032.34

Source: APEDA

Industrial sickness

3056. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether industrial units are getting closed due to increasing sickness in conventional industries in the country;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to announce any incentive scheme for different industries for their expansion and development; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI P.V.K.S. ELAGOVAN): (a) and (b) Labour Bureau, Shimla under the Ministry of Labour and Employment collects information on closure of industrial units covered by the Industrial Dispute Act, 1947. As per information (provisional) available with the Labour Bureau 194